



central stoneroller

Campostoma anomalum

Kingdom:	Animalia
Division/Phylum:	Chordata - vertebrates
Class:	Osteichthyes
Order:	Cypriniformes
Family:	Cyprinidae

Features

The central stoneroller has a body that is slender to somewhat stout. It is slightly flattened from side to side and has a definite hump in the back. The mouth is on the underside of the snout and the lower jaw is chisel-shaped. The body is a brownish olive color with a brassy luster above and silvery white below. Breeding males develop a dark bar across the anal fin and have tubercles (bumps) on their back, top of the head, and between the nostrils. Adults may grow to seven inches long.

Natural History

The central stoneroller is found in creeks with clear water. It is less common in more turbid (muddy) streams. It is most abundant in the coldwater streams of northeast Iowa. It eats by scraping algae and bottom sediment from submerged objects. Spawning occurs in April when males make nests by moving gravel around with their snouts or mouths, hence their name.

Habitats

interior rivers and streams; Mississippi River

Iowa Status

common; native

Iowa Range

statewide except the southwestern one-third of Iowa

Bibliography

Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.
Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.